

Supply—Justice

United States or other countries dossiers or information about known narcotic addicts or traffickers or agents who are in those countries.

Mr. Fulton: I am informed that there are 68 members of the force on full time narcotic squad duties, mostly in Montreal and Vancouver and some in Toronto. In addition, of course, any member of the C.I.B. can be detailed specially to narcotic work at the time of any special investigation or round-up. With regard the country of origin of narcotics, they come mainly of course from countries of the Middle East and the Far East. I am told that the main port of entry into Canada is Montreal. The amount of actual entry through Vancouver, oddly enough, is comparatively small, although Vancouver is one of the main centres of narcotic activity in the sense of the presence of addicts. In view of the presence of addicts, I believe, it is what might be called an attractive place for pushers or peddlers, but it is not one of the main sources of entry for narcotics themselves into the country.

With regard to the exchange of information, we do exchange full information on narcotics with respect to known addicts and all other phases of anti-narcotic law enforcement with the United States and with all other countries who are members of an organization called Interpol, which is an international police organization. We have maintained the normal contacts with the United States through Interpol, and I am informed in addition we have a special continuing liaison with the United States on narcotic problems because of the proximity of our two countries.

Mr. Howard: Mr. Chairman, it is very kind of the minister to give that sort of information. I was a little surprised, pleasantly so. I would have thought the concentration of addicts in Vancouver may have been occasioned because Vancouver was the port of entry of narcotics; but I guess we can attach the reason for it to our balmy and well tempered weather out there.

The minister mentioned that the Middle East and Far East countries are the major sources of origin of narcotics for distribution to other parts of the world, and I wonder if he could indicate to what extent narcotics are supplied out of Hong Kong, and whether or not those which come from Hong Kong, say to Montreal in this case or to other parts of the world from that area, originate in the mainland of China? To what extent is China, as far as we know,

participating in the growth and distribution of narcotics to the rest of the world?

Mr. Fulton: Mr. Chairman, I am told we are not able to trace directly the narcotics coming into Canada to red China. It is believed that the majority of the supply coming into Canada comes in from countries in the Middle East. The raw material is grown in countries in the Middle East, processed in Italy and France, and comes into this country mainly via Montreal and New York.

Mr. MacLean (Winnipeg North Centre): Mr. Chairman, I just want to ask the minister a brief question. It has appeared to me over the past few months that there seems to have been a great number of arrests and prosecutions in the city of Winnipeg with regard to possession and trafficking charges. I do not know the number but it appears to me there are more this year than last year. I have not got comparative figures so perhaps I am wrong and the minister can correct me. I would also like to know, if the minister has the figures there, whether or not there is any evidence or reason to believe that there is any greater trafficking or possession of narcotics in the city of Winnipeg than has been the case previously.

Mr. Fulton: No, Mr. Chairman. I am told the activity in Winnipeg both with respect to the number of men working on anti-narcotic work and the number of prosecutions is about normal.

Item agreed to.

365. Construction or acquisition of buildings, works, land and equipment, \$5,826,605.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, I want to make a brief reference to the recent policy of the department in building R.C.M.P. headquarters and facilities in the smaller communities to a much greater extent than in years past. I must say I heartily approve of it because I think it makes for much better administration and provides better facilities for the members of the force who have to serve in the smaller communities sometimes with very poor and inadequate facilities. I presume the policy is now developed and more stable because of the continuing contracts with provincial governments for the services of the R.C.M.P. I am very pleased at the program of the department in undertaking the construction of these smaller buildings in the smaller communities at a time when it will provide employment instead of some measure of unemployment. I think it is very wise that planning is undertaken in that respect particularly in smaller communities where work possibly